

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus comprising:
checking means for checking predetermined time information of content data recorded in a first format by controlling a content providing device to reproduce at a faster speed than a normal speed of the content providing device ~~such that only a portion of the content data recorded in the first format is checked by the checking means, said checking means comparing the predetermined time information from successive frames to determine start and end times for chapters of said content data;~~

setting means for setting, on the basis of said content data time information checked by said checking means, bit rates with which said content data is recorded from said information processing apparatus to a predetermined removable recording medium, the setting means selecting the bit rates such that an amount of data to be stored on the predetermined removable recording medium is less than a capacity of a predetermined removable recording medium based on a comparison between a resulting amount of data for selected bit rates and the capacity of a predetermined removable recording medium; and

recording control means for converting the format of said content data from said first format to a second format and recording the converted content data to said recording medium with said bit rates set by said setting means.

Claim 2 (Original): The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said checking means checks a recording time of said content data recorded in said first format as said time information.

Claim 3 (Original): The information processing apparatus according to claim 2, wherein said content data is constituted by a moving image data and audio data corresponding thereto; said setting means sets, as said bit rates, a first bit rate corresponding to said moving image data and a second bit rate corresponding to said audio data; and said recording control means executes control so as to record said moving image data of said content data in said first bit rate set by said setting means and record said audio data in said second bit rate set by said setting means.

Claim 4 (Original): The information processing apparatus according to claim 3, wherein a first fixed value is predetermined as a maximum value among settable values of said first bit rate; a second fixed value is predetermined as a maximum value among settable values of said second bit rate; and said setting means, if a first inequality expressed in $(B1+B2) \times Tx < Cmax$ where Tx denotes a recording time of said content data checked by said checking means, $B1$ denotes said first fixed value, $B2$ denotes said second fixed value, and $Cmax$ denotes a recordable maximum capacity of said recording medium of which recording is controlled by said recording control means, is found established, then sets said first fixed value as a value of said first bit rate and said second fixed value as a value of said second bit rate.

Claim 5 (Original): The information processing apparatus according to claim 4, wherein a third fixed value lower than said second fixed value is predetermined as a settable value of said second bit rate; and said setting means, if said first inequality is found not established and a second inequality expressed in $(B1+B3) \times Tx < Cmax$ where $B3$ denotes said third fixed value is found established, then sets said first fixed value as a value of said first bit rate and said third fixed value as a value of said second bit rate.

Claim 6 (Original): The information processing apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said setting means, if said first inequality is found not established and said second inequality is found not established, then computes a fourth value denoted by B4 in a third inequality for establishing said third inequality $(B4+B3) \times Tx < Cmax$, sets the computed fourth value as a value of said first bit rate and said third fixed value as a value of said second bit rate.

Claim 7 (Original): The information processing apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said setting means computes said fourth value on the basis of the establishment of said third inequality and a predetermined characteristic that, as a recording time of said content data checked by said checking means increases, the value of said first bit rate linearly decreases.

Claim 8 (Original): The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said first format is a format of a digital video tape recorder and said second format is a format specified by the DVD standard.

Claim 9 (Original): The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:
storage means for storing said content data, said recording control means including:
computation means for computing a free capacity of said storage means;
acquisition means for dividing said content data into a plurality of data sections on the basis of said free capacity of said storage means computed by said computation means, acquiring a predetermined first data section among said plurality of data sections, and storing said acquired predetermined first data section into said storage means;

conversion means for converting said format of said first data section acquired by said acquisition means from said first format to a second format, generating a second data section smaller in data amount than said first data section, and storing the generated second data section into said storage means;

deletion means for deleting, when said generated second data section obtained by converting said format of said first data section by said conversion means has been stored in said storage means, said first data section from said storage means before a third data section different from said first data section is acquired by said acquisition means from among said plurality of data sections forming said content data; and

recording medium recording control means for, if said content data has all been acquired in said acquisition means, converted into said second format in said conversion means, and stored in said storage device, recording the content data of said second format to said recording medium at said bit rate set by said setting means.

Claim 10 (Original): The information processing apparatus according to claim 9, wherein said computation means computes a first data amount of said content data in said first format and a second data amount of said content data in said second format and adds the computed first data amount and the computed second data amount together to compute a first threshold value; and said acquisition means, if said free capacity of said storage means computed by said computation means is smaller than said first threshold value computed by said computation means, sets, as a second threshold value, an amount obtained by subtracting said second data amount computed by said computation means from said free capacity of said storage means, divides said content data into said plurality of data sections having a data amount smaller than said second threshold value, and acquires said first data section among

said plurality of data sections, and stores the acquired first data section into said storage means.

Claim 11 (Original): The information processing apparatus according to claim 10, wherein said first format is a format of a digital video tape recorder; said acquisition means acquires said content data by making said digital video tape recorder reproduce a digital video tape on which said content data is recorded; and said second format is a format specified by the DVD standard.

Claim 12 (Original): The information processing apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said recording control means further has section checking means makes said digital video tape recorder reproduce said digital video tape recorded with said content data to check a recording section that appears after said recording start point and before said recording end point; and said acquisition means divides said content data by use of data corresponding to each of said plurality of recording sections checked by said section checking means, as one of said section data, and acquires said first section data of the plurality of divided section data, thereby storing the acquired first section data into said storage means.

Claim 13 (Original): The information processing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said acquisition means, if there is any data among data corresponding to said plurality of recording sections checked by said section checking means that exceeds said second threshold value in data amount, does not handle said data corresponding to said recording section exceeding said second threshold value in data amount as one of said section data, but further divides said data into a plurality of data lower in data amount than said second threshold value, divides said content data with each of said plurality of data lower in

data amount than said second threshold value used as one section data, acquires said first section data among said plurality of section data, and stores said first section data into said storage means.

Claim 14 (Original): The information processing apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said section checking means makes said digital video tape recorder reproduce said digital video tape recorded with said content data at a speed higher than normal to check an interim recording section corresponding to said recording section; and said acquisition means divides said content data with data corresponding to said plurality of interim recording sections checked by said section checking means used as one interim section data, detects a recording start point of said recording section corresponding to a predetermined first section data among said plurality of interim section data, controls said digital video tape recorder to reproduce data corresponding to said recording section from the detected recording start point up to said recording end point that appears next to said recording start point, acquires, as said first section data, said data corresponding to said recording section of which reproduction by said digital video tape recorder is controlled, and stores said data thus acquired into said storage means.

Claim 15 (Currently Amended): A computer readable medium including computer executable instructions, wherein the instructions, when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform a method comprising:

checking predetermined time information of content data recorded in a first format by controlling a content providing device to reproduce at a faster speed than a normal speed of the content providing device ~~such that only a portion of the content data recorded in the first~~

~~format is checked, said checking including comparing the predetermined time information from successive frames to determine start and end times for chapters of said content data;~~

setting, on the basis of said content data time information checked by said checking, bit rates with which said content data is recorded from said information processing apparatus to a predetermined removable recording medium, the setting including selecting the bit rates such that an amount of data to be stored on the predetermined removable recording medium is less than a capacity of a predetermined removable recording medium based on a comparison between a resulting amount of data for selected bit rates and the capacity of a predetermined removable recording medium; and

converting the format of said content data from said first format to a second format and recording the converted content data to said recording medium with said bit rates set by said setting.

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): The computer readable medium according to claim 15, wherein said converting includes,

computing a free capacity of a predetermined storage device;

dividing said content data into a plurality of data sections on the basis of said free capacity of said storage device computed by said computing, acquiring a predetermined first data section among said plurality of data sections, and storing said acquired predetermined first data section into said storage device;

converting said format of said first data section acquired by said dividing from said first format to a second format, generating a second data section smaller in data amount than said first data section, and storing the generated second data section into said storage device;

deleting, when said generated second data section obtained by converting said format of said first data section by said converting said format of said first data section has been

stored in said storage device, said first data section from said storage device before a third data section different from said first data section is acquired by said dividing from among said plurality of data sections forming said content data; and

recording the content data of said second format to said recording medium at said bit rate set by said setting if said content data has all been acquired in said dividing, converted into said second format in said converting said format of said first data section, and stored in said storage device.

Claim 17 (Currently Amended): An information processing apparatus comprising:

a checking unit configured to check predetermined time information of content data recorded in a first format by controlling a content providing device to reproduce at a faster speed than a normal speed of the content providing device ~~such that only a portion of the content data recorded in the first format is checked by the checking unit, said checking unit configured to compare the predetermined time information from successive frames to determine start and end times for chapters of said content data;~~

a setting unit configured to set bit rates with which said content data is recorded from said information processing apparatus to a predetermined removable recording medium on the basis of said content data time information checked by said checking unit, the setting unit configured to select the bit rates such that an amount of data to be stored on the predetermined removable recording medium is less than a capacity of a predetermined removable recording medium based on a comparison between a resulting amount of data for selected bit rates and the capacity of a predetermined removable recording medium; and

a recording controller configured to convert the format of said content data from said first format to a second format and recording the converted content data to said recording medium with said bit rates set by said setting unit.

Claim 18 (Previously Presented): The information processing apparatus according to claim 17, wherein said checking unit is configured to check a recording time of said content data recorded in said first format as said time information.

Claim 19 (Previously Presented): The information processing apparatus according to claim 18, wherein said content data is constituted by a moving image data and audio data corresponding thereto; said setting unit is configured to set, as said bit rates, a first bit rate corresponding to said moving image data and a second bit rate corresponding to said audio data; and said recording controller is configured to execute control so as to record said moving image data of said content data in said first bit rate set by said setting unit and record said audio data in said second bit rate set by said setting unit.

Claim 20 (Previously Presented): The information processing apparatus according to claim 19, wherein a first fixed value is predetermined as a maximum value among settable values of said first bit rate; a second fixed value is predetermined as a maximum value among settable values of said second bit rate; and said setting unit, if a first inequality expressed in $(B1+B2) \times Tx < Cmax$ where Tx denotes a recording time of said content data checked by said checking unit, $B1$ denotes said first fixed value, $B2$ denotes said second fixed value, and $Cmax$ denotes a recordable maximum capacity of said recording medium of which recording is controlled by said recording controller, is found established, then sets said first fixed value as a value of said first bit rate and said second fixed value as a value of said second bit rate.

Claim 21 (New): The information processing apparatus according to claim 17, wherein the setting unit selects a value for the bit rate of audio data and selects a value for the

bit rate of video data by computing a maximum possible bit rate based on the capacity of the predetermined removable storage medium and the value for the bit rate of the audio data.

Claim 22 (New): The information processing apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the setting means selects a value for the bit rate of audio data and selects a value for the bit rate of video data by computing a maximum possible bit rate based on the capacity of the predetermined removable storage medium and the value for the bit rate of the audio data.

Claim 23 (New): The computer readable medium according to claim 15, wherein the setting includes a selecting a value for the bit rate of audio data and selecting a value for the bit rate of video data by computing a maximum possible bit rate based on the capacity of the predetermined removable storage medium and the value for the bit rate of the audio data.